Application No.: 09/597,160

Docket No.: 21994-00007-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Presently Amended) A recording apparatus of an electronic watermark comprising:

detecting means for detecting a first electronic watermark signal from inputted original contents data ~~inputted~~, wherein the first electronic watermark signal is scattered ~~in~~ into a plurality of information units of the original contents data;

memory means for storing the first electronic watermark signal detected by said detecting means;

extracting means for extracting a part of the contents data from the original contents data, ~~wherein the part of the contents includes only a part of the first electronic watermark signal~~;

deciding means for judging whether or not the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data extracted by said extracting means;

inserting means for inserting a second electronic watermark signal, having a content that is equivalent to that of the first electronic watermark signal detected by said detecting means, ~~in~~ into the part of contents data extracted by said extracting means; and

~~outputting means for outputting the original contents data that is inserted with said second electronic watermark signal~~

switching means for outputting either:

(a) the part of the contents data extracted by said extracting means in the event the deciding means judges that the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data; or

(b) the part of contents data inserted with the second electronic watermark signal by said inserting means in the event the deciding means judges that the fist electronic watermark signal does not exist in the part of contents data.

2.   (Canceled).

3.   (Presently Amended) The recording apparatus of an electronic watermark in accordance with claim 2 1, said recording apparatus further comprising MPEG encoder means, MPEG decoder means and another inserting means for receiving an intra-coded picture location

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signal from the MPEG encoder means, wherein said inserting means records the first electronic watermark signal in case the original contents data is an intra-picture.

4.   (Presently Amended) A recording method of an electronic watermark comprising steps of:

detecting a first electronic watermark signal from inputted original contents data-inputted, wherein the first electronic watermark signal is scattered in-into a plurality of information units of the original contents data;

storing the first electronic watermark signal detected in said detecting step of detecting;

extracting a part of contents data from the original contents data, wherein the part of contents includes only a part of the first electronic watermark signal;

judging whether or not the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data extracted in said extracting step;

inserting a second electronic watermark signal, having a content that is equivalent to that of the first electronic watermark signal, into the part of contents data extracted in said extracting step of extracting; and

outputting the original contents data that is inserted with said second electronic watermark signal

outputting either:

(a) the part of contents data extracted in said extracting step in the event the deciding means judges that the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data; or

(b) the part of contents data inserted with the second electronic watermark signal in said inserting step in the event the deciding means judges that the fist electronic watermark signal does not exist in the part of contents data.

5.   (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus of an electronic watermark comprising:

detecting means for detecting a first electronic watermark signal from inputted original contents data-inputted, wherein the first electronic watermark signal is intermittently recorded during every interval of a plurality of information units of the original contents data;

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memory means for storing the first electronic watermark signal detected by said detecting means;

extracting means for extracting a part of contents data from the original contents data, ~~wherein the part of contents excludes the first electronic watermark signal~~;

<u>deciding means for judging whether or not the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data extracted by said extracting means;</u>

inserting means for inserting a second electronic watermark signal, having a content that is equivalent to that of the first electronic watermark signal detected by said detecting means, ~~in~~ <u>into</u> the <u>part of</u> contents data extracted by said extracting means; and

~~outputting means for outputting the original contents data that is inserted with said second electronic watermark signal~~

<u>switching means for outputting either:</u>

<u>(a) the part of contents data extracted by said extracting means in the event the deciding means judges that the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data; or</u>

<u>(b) the part of contents data inserted with the second electronic watermark signal by said inserting means in the event the deciding means judges that the fist electronic watermark signal does not exist in the part of contents data.</u>

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) The recording apparatus of an electronic watermark in accordance with claim ~~6~~5, said recording apparatus further comprising: MPEG encoder means, MPEG decoder means and another inserting means for receiving an intra-coded picture location signal from the MPEG encoder means, wherein said inserting means records the first electronic watermark signal in case the original contents data is an intra-picture.

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8.   (Currently Amended) A recording method of an electronic watermark comprising steps of:

detecting a first electronic watermark signal from inputted original contents data inputted, wherein the first electronic watermark signal is recorded during every interval of a plurality of information units of the original contents data;

storing the first electronic watermark signal detected in said detecting step of detecting;

extracting a part of contents data from the original contents data; wherein the part of contents data excludes the first electronic watermark signal;

judging whether or not the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data extracted in said extracting step;

inserting a second electronic watermark signal, having a content that is equivalent to that of the first electronic watermark signal, into the part of contents data extracted in said extracting step of extracting, and

outputting the original contents data that is inserted with said second electronic watermark signal

outputting either:

(a) the part of contents data extracted in said extracting step in the event the deciding means judges that the first electronic watermark signal exists in the part of contents data; or

(b) the part of contents data inserted with the second electronic watermark signal in said inserting step in the event the deciding means judges that the fist electronic watermark signal does not exist in the part of contents data.

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